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After a bachelor’s degree in Physics from Loyola College, Chennai, he obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in Management from the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta. Following a two-year stint at the Planning Commission of the Government of India, he pursued an MPhil in Applied Economics, and then a PhD in Economics, both at the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Thiruvananthapuram. He was briefly on the faculty of CDS.

From 1988 onwards, he has been in the media. From 1988 to 1993 he was an Assistant Editor at Deccan Herald, Bengaluru, where he wrote on economic policy. From 1993 to 2004 he was with The Hindu, first at Chennai and then Hyderabad, again focusing on national and international economic policy.

He left The Hindu in 2004 when he was Associate Editor to become Editor of Economic and Political Weekly, Mumbai, in September 2004 where he continued until March 2016. During his tenure as Editor he oversaw the expansion of EPW into new areas of activity and the strengthening of the digital edition of the journal. In 2003, he co-edited with MV Ramana a volume titled Prisons of the Nuclear Dream, a collection of essays that examined the nuclear weapons policy of India.

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* Major political upheavals in the western world are seeing a major questioning of the process of globalisation. This has been associated with a xenophobia which has not been witnessed for close to half a century. What does this foretell for the process of globalisation, which in its most recent form has held sway for a few decades? What does this portend for the developing countries which have embraced trade globalisation?